

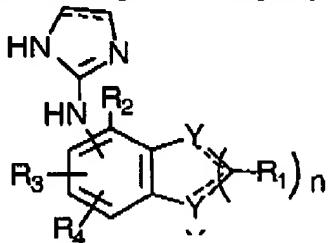
Serial No. 09/903,954
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PATENT

STATUS OF CLAIMS

1-20) Cancelled.

21) (Currently Amended) A method of treating preventing degeneration of the optic nerve and providing protection of the retinal ganglion cells of a mammal in need of such treatment, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a prostaglandin and a therapeutically effective amount of an alpha adrenergic agent of formula (I)



formula (I)

wherein each Y is independently selected from the group consisting of N, N-CH₃, O, S and C-R₁; R₁ is hydrogen, lower alkyl or oxo; R₂, R₃ and R₄ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl and lower alkenyl; n is an integer from 1 to 3; and a broken line beside a solid line indicates either a single or a double bond, provided that two double bonds are not on the same carbon in the case when n=1, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters as appropriate.

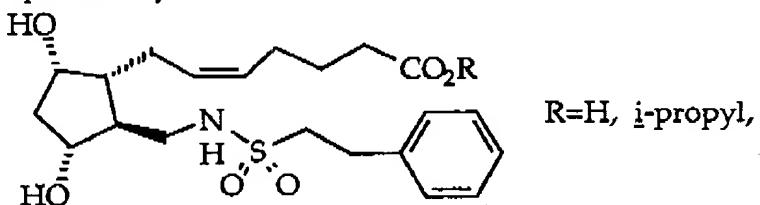
22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the prostaglandin is selected from the group consisting of PGF_{2α}, PGE₂, PGE₁, prostacyclin, 15(S)-methyl-PGF_{2α}, 16,16-dimethyl-PGF_{2α}, 15(S)-methyl-PGE_{2a}, 16,16-dimethyl-PGE₂, 17,18,19,20-tetranor-16-phenoxy-PGE₂, 17,18, 19,20-tetranor-16-phenoxy-PGF_{2α}, 18,19,20-trinor-17-phenyl-PGE₂, 18,19,20-trinor-17-phenyl-PGF_{2α}, the free acid and lower alkyl esters of PGF_{2α}, wherein the omega chain has been replaced with phenylethylsulfonamidomethyl-, trimoprostil, RS-84-135, rioprostil, S-1033 (15-deshydroxy PGF_{2α}, sodium salt), S-747260, nocloprost, CS-412, YPG-209, K-10134, cloprostenol, fluprostenol, luprostirol, etiproston, tiaprost, SQ 27986, ZK 138519, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 138519, ZK 118182, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 118182, ZK 110841, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 110841, PhXA41 (latanoprost), RO-221327, HR-466, HR-601, ONO-1206, UFO-21, 11-deoxy-PGE₂, 11-deoxy-PGF_{2α}, 11-deoxy-16,16-dimethyl-PGE₂, 11-deoxy-15(S)-methyl-PGE₂, 11-deoxy-15(S)-methyl-PGF_{2α}, misoprostol, enisoprost, MDL-646, CL-115,574, CL-

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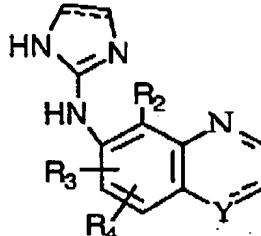
115,347, TR-4161, TR-4752, TR-4367, CP-27987, sulprostone, gemeprost, alfadrostol, delprostene, prostalene, fenprostalene, CL-116,069, ONO-995 and RO-229648, and their pharmaceutically acceptable esters and salts, as appropriate.

23) (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein the prostaglandin is selected from the group consisting of PGF 2α -11-pivalyl ester, the 1-amido-15-methyl ether of PGF 2α , 1-ethylamido-18,19,20-trinor-17-phenyl-PGF 2α , PGF 2α -1-ethyl ester, PGF 2α -1-isopropyl ester, the acid and isopropyl ester derivatives of PGF 2α wherein the omega chain has been replaced with phenylethylsulfonamidomethyl-, as represented by the structure below:



RO-229648, SQ 27986, ZK 138519, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 138519, ZK 110841, 13,14-dihydro-ZK 110841, PhXA41, and 18,19,20-trinor-17-phenyl-PGF 2α -1-methyl ester.

24) (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the alpha adrenergic agent is selected from the group consisting of formula (II) wherein Y is N or O, R₂ is bromine or methyl and all other variables are defined as in claim 14



25) (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the alpha adrenergic agent is brimonidine (5-bromo-N-(4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazol-2-yl)-6-quinoxalinamine).

26) Cancelled

27) (Currently amended) The article method of claim 21 wherein the prostaglandin is the 11-pivalyl ester of PGF 2α and the alpha adrenergic agent is brimonidine.